

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during an interview with Applicants' representative on February 17. This amendment incorporates the changes discussed at the interview. As discussed at the interview, independent claims 1, 11 and 20 have been amended to provide that the L-shaped back support is non-rotatably connected to the transverse member. This clarifies a distinction between the present invention and the chair of Haynes, wherein the back is rotatably connected. Applicant submits that the non-rotatably nature of the connection is supported by the drawing and specification as inherent in the depicted design for a nesting chair. In the illustrated chair construction, one of skill in the art recognizes that the back does not rotate.

Claims 1 and 14 have additionally been amended to correct typographical errors. Additionally, claims 10 and 19 have been amended to clarify that the seat base is entirely disposed below the underside of the seat cushion.

At the interview, proposed new claims 21 and 22 were presented and discussed. In the present amendment, proposed claim 22 has become new claim 29. New claims 22-28 have been added, as dependent on claim 21, and new claims 30-35 have been added, as dependent on claim 29. New independent claims 21 and 29 (claim 22 at the interview) correspond to dependent claims 4 and 10. They take claim 1 as a starting point, but without the requirement that the back support bracket be supported solely by the transverse member or that it is non-rotatably attached.

As discussed at the interview, it is submitted that claims 21 and 29 (22 in the proposed amendment) are allowable over the cited art. The Haynes reference does not provide inwardly bent leg side members or a frame entirely disposed below the underside of the seat. If Haynes were to be combined with the Meek reference, the combination would not meet the limitation that the leg members are "spaced apart". As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 29 are allowable. The new dependent claims correspond to the claims depending from claim 1, with some claims eliminated to avoid duplicate claim coverage. Claims 6 and 7 have been cancelled to eliminate duplicate claim coverage.

If any issues remain with this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' below signed representative.

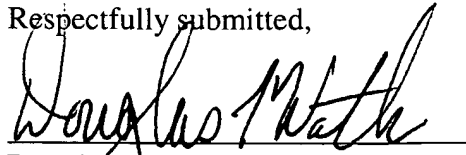
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Date: Feb. 28, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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